Seizure of Animals Skins and Wildlife Products

2158. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent seizures of animal skins and other wildlife products in the country, particularly in Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the details of the items seized and value thereof;

(c) the action taken against the culprits; and

(d) the steps taken to check the killing and illegal trade of animals, particularly the endangered species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir. There are reports of a significant number of seizures of wild animal parts and products in recent times. There is however no large scale seizure report from Gujarat.

(b) Details of items seized through state machinery are maintained by the State Govts. This Ministry collects and collates details of seizures made through its regional offices of wildlife preservation at Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta.Details of the items seized in the last one year are given in the Statement *{See* below). The value of these items is difficult to estimate as their trade is prohibited.

(c) Action against the culprits involvedin these cases has been taken under theWild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and other relevant Acts and Rules.

(d) The steps taken by the Govt, to stop killing and illegal trade of endangered species includes:

i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schcdule-I to IV of the Wild life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.

ii) Special schemes for protection and conservation of tiger, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.

iii) A network of wildlife sanctuaries and national parks has been set up for conservation of wild Cora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.

iv) Raids are carried out by the Wildlife authorities whenever information of illegal trading in wild animals reaches them.

v) International trade in endangered species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

vi) Regional and sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation are set up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

vii) Interdepartmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. A training programme on CITES enforcement and implementation was also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi in February, 1995.

Statement

Wild Animal Skin/Products Seized in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras during the lastone year

S. No. Item seized	1994-95
1. Snake skiivarticles	25046
2. Tiger skinAvith mounted headferticles	*23*
3. Leopard skiivskull	29
4. Otter skiivarticles	405
S. Leopard cat skiivwith heacVarticles	89
6. Fishing cat skiivarticles	2
7. Lizard skin/articles	896
8. Crocodile skiivarticles	10
9. Cheetal skiivarticles	14
10. Lynx skin articles	1
11. Fox skin articles	6
12. Jungle cat skirvmounted'articles	61
13. Red fox skiivarticles	23
14. Stone marten skin articles	2
15. Desert cat skir/articles	321
16. Snow leopard skiivarticles	4
17. Jackal skin articles	17
18. Desert Fox skin	796
19. Rabbit fur collar	26
20. Ibex uncured Skin	1
21. Mongoose hair article	2398Pcs. 27.29 Kg.
22. Fur skin articles	3
23. Monitor Lizard skin	170
24. Femur bone of wild animal	1
25. Fur leather strip of Jackal & fox	443 Pes.
26. Ivory articles	8
27. Antelope skin	2
28. Wild animal horn	1

Investment possibilities in food processing industry sector

2159. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Processing Industries have the capacity to create more capital investment as compared to other industries;

(b) if so, whether Government have sought expert opinion in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the follow up action proposed to be taken thereon; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (e) On the basis of the information available in the Annual Survey of Industries 1987-88 and 1990-91 it has been noticed that the combined incremental capital-output ratio in the food and beverages sector is 0.44:1 as against incremental capital-output ratio of all industries taken together being 0.69:1 indi-